



Chapter

1

Introduction

Introduction to the City of Falls Church Solid Waste Management Plan

This solid waste management plan (SWMP) describes the City's integrated strategy for the management of nonhazardous solid waste generated within the City over the next 20 years.

Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations

**The City developed
this SWMP in
accordance with the
VDEQ Solid Waste
Management
Planning
Regulations.**



The City of Falls Church developed this SWMP in accordance with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) Solid Waste Management Planning Regulations, Amendment 1 (9 VAC 20-130-10 et seq.), promulgated in 2001. These regulations require each jurisdiction to provide a complete, revised SWMP to VDEQ no later than July 1, 2004. The primary purposes of these regulations are as follows:

- Establish minimum solid waste management (SWM) standards and planning requirements for protection of the public health, public safety, environment, and natural resources throughout the Commonwealth.
- Promote local and regional planning that provides for environmentally sound and compatible SWM with the most effective and efficient use of available resources.
- Establish state and local government responsibility for meeting and maintaining the minimum recycling rates of 25 percent.

Plan Development Approach and Goals

The City of Falls Church is using this comprehensive SWMP both to satisfy the VDEQ regulatory requirements and as a strategic planning tool. This plan lays the groundwork for solid waste source reduction, reuse, recycling, collection, transfer, and disposal initiatives in the City from 2004 through 2024. It establishes goals and strategies for the operational and financial management of its SWM system.

The City of Falls Church selected SWMP actions that address its future waste management needs and meet its SWM goals.

The City of Falls Church developed the SWMP by first evaluating its current SWM activities and its future waste projections to identify future waste management needs over the SWMP planning period. It then selected SWM actions for the next 20 years that address future waste management needs and meet the following goals:

- Become a community of citizens whose actions reflect an ethic of resource conservation and waste minimization.
- Develop and maintain a secure, cost-effective, environmentally sound and resource-efficient SWM program.

Plan Organization

The remainder of this SWMP is organized as follows:

- Chapter 2 (Projections and Waste Quantities) describes the City's current waste stream characteristics, estimates of waste quantities and material types, and projections of the waste stream over the next 20 years. The chapter also examines pertinent demographic data, including population, urban concentration, households, and employment, and City characteristics, including climate, geology, and traffic conditions, that may influence waste collection, waste disposal, and type of materials disposed of over the next 20 years.
- Chapter 3 (Solid Waste Management Hierarchy) describes the SWM hierarchy (defined in the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations) and discusses the consideration of the hierarchy in developing this SWMP.
- Chapter 4 (Solid Waste Management Goals) presents the overall goals of the City's SWM program and discusses the manner by which the SWMP actions will accomplish these goals.
- Chapter 5 (Solid Waste Management System Overview) presents an overview of the City's current SWM system, including organization structure and funding strategies.

- Chapter 6 (Municipal Solid Waste) describes the current SWM activities for municipal solid waste (MSW) in the City of Falls Church, organized using the waste hierarchy. It uses the hierarchy as the framework for determining how to bridge the gaps between the current SWM activities and the strategies needed to manage the City's MSW in the future. The chapter presents the City's SWMP actions for MSW over the next 20 years.
- Chapter 7 (Construction/Demolition/Debris) describes the current City SWM activities, anticipated gaps in waste management, and SWMP actions for construction/demolition/debris (CDD).
- Chapter 8 (Yard Waste) describes the current City SWM activities, anticipated gaps in waste management, and SWMP actions for yard waste.
- Chapter 9 (Special Wastes) describes the current City SWM activities, anticipated gaps in waste management, and SWMP actions for special wastes.
- Chapter 10 (Litter Control) describes the current and future City litter control program.
- Chapter 11 (Solid Waste Management Plan Actions and Implementation Plan) presents the City's integrated actions planned for the SWM system over the next 20 years, organized from top to bottom of the waste hierarchy. The chapter also describes the City's plan for the implementation of its SWMP actions.
- Chapter 12 (Future SWM System Waste Quantities) presents the future waste quantities projections for the City's SWM system after implementation of the SWMP actions.
- Chapter 13 (Funding) describes the City's plan for funding its SWM system over the next 20 years. It discusses the modifications to the current funding structure to support the SWMP actions.
- Chapter 14 (Public Participation) discusses public participation in development of this SWMP, including both citizen and private-sector involvement, the consideration of public/private partnerships, and the public education and outreach strategies to execute the future vision of the SWM system.

- Appendix A discusses the development of MSW generation, disposal, and recycling projections over the SWMP planning period.
- Appendix B discusses recycling markets.
- Appendix C shows potential best practices for source reduction and reuse in the City.

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